

Green River Diversion Rehabilitation Project – Draft EIS Notice of Availability

March 14 , 2014

Dear Interested Parties:

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), with the Utah Department of Agriculture and Food (UDAF) as the project sponsor, is announcing the availability of a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) describing the proposed rehabilitation of the Green River/Tusher Diversion Dam in Green River, Utah. The proposed project is located approximately 6.6 miles north of the city of Green River on North Long Street. **You are invited to comment on the project and attend a public meeting** which will describe the alternatives analyzed and potential impacts to the environment.

Draft EIS Public Comment Period

Open: Friday, March 14, 2014

Close: Wednesday, April 30, 2014

Draft EIS Public Meeting

Date: Thursday, April 10, 2014

Time: 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. (MST)

Place: John Wesley Powell River History Museum
1765 East Main Street, Green River, UT

Hard copies of the Draft EIS have been distributed to the following publicly accessible facilities for review:

- NRCS Price Field Office, 540 W Price River Drive, Price, Utah
- Grand County Public Library, 257 E Center Street, Moab, Utah
- Green River City Hall, 460 E Main Street, Green River, Utah
- John Wesley Powell River History Museum, 1765 E Main Street, Green River, Utah

Electronic copies of the Draft EIS are available on the project website:
<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/ut/programs/planning/ewpp>

More project specific information is available by contacting Greg Allington (McMillen, LLC) with the project team by phone at (208) 342-4214 or email at greenriver@mcmillen-llc.com.

Draft EIS

The purpose of the proposed action is to rehabilitate the existing Green River Diversion Dam. The project will rehabilitate the diversion due to damage caused by past flood events, upgrade the dam infrastructure to current design standards, maintain the level of water delivery to the existing water rights holders, and comply with applicable Federal rules and regulations. The need for the project is to maintain existing functions of the diversion dam for water delivery to water rights holders (irrigation canals and a local powerhouse).





The following alternatives were analyzed in detail in the Green River Diversion Rehabilitation Draft EIS:

- No Action
- Replace In Place
- Replace In Place With Passages

Public Participation

The participation of the public is a vital component of the project so that those who are interested in or potentially affected by the proposed project have an opportunity to share their comments, ideas, and concerns regarding actions during the Draft EIS stage of the NEPA process. In order to provide the public with an opportunity to comment on the Draft EIS, NRCS has opened a public comment period. You are encouraged to attend the public meeting and express your comments, ideas, and concerns. You may also submit your comments via letter, email or fax anytime during the public comment period. For comments to be considered and to become part of the public record for the project, **we need to receive them by the end of the day on Wednesday, April 30, 2014.**

Please mail your written comments to:

Green River Diversion Rehabilitation Project
c/o McMillen, LLC – Greg Allington
1401 Shoreline Drive
Boise, ID 83702

You may also submit comments by email, phone or fax to McMillen:

Email: greenriver@mcmillen-llc.com
Phone: (208) 342-4214
Fax: (208) 342-4216

After receiving comments by the end of the day on Wednesday, April 30, 2014, the NRCS will review the comments, select a Preferred Alternative, and prepare the Final EIS. You may also visit the project website at <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/ut/programs/planning/ewpp> or perform an internet search for “NRCS Utah EWP” and select the Green River/Tusher Diversion Rehabilitation link to check on the status of the project, view an electronic copy of the Draft EIS, and download project related documents during the course of the NEPA analysis.

The project team values your feedback and encourages you to contact us with questions and comments

Sincerely,

Bronson Smart
NRCS State Engineer

cc: Anthony Beals – NRCS
Norm Evenstad – NRCS
Thayne Mickelson – UDAF

Roger Barton – UACD
Greg Allington – McMillen, LLC
Dan Axness – McMillen, LLC